

# Alameda County Congestion Management Agency

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#### Transportation Update

#### February 2006

#### Infrastructure Bond Proposals Discussed at CMA Board Retreat

On February 10<sup>th</sup> the CMA held its annual retreat. Three issues were discussed. A panel composed of Brian Kelly, Senate President Pro Tem Office, Will Kempton, Caltrans Director, Tomi Van de Brooke, California Alliance for Jobs and Lynn Suter, the CMA's Sacramento representative discussed the various proposals and the political climate. The general consensus among panel members is that there is a good chance some form of infrastructure package will be put to the voters this year. Active discussions are ongoing between the Legislature and the Governor's office.

The retreat participants then discussed key transportation projects and developed a strategy for seeking federal funding. This strategy will guide the CMA's advocacy in Washington, DC.

Lastly, staff presented the criteria and constrains associated with federal funding and the confluence with MTC's programs that use federal funding. The Board requested additional research aimed at developing a position prior to MTC's next update of the regional transportation plan, beginning in late 2008.

## **CMA Adopts Principles for State Infrastructure Proposals**

As a follow up to the Board retreat, at the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the CMA adopted a set of infrastructure financing principles to govern the CMA's advocacy in Sacramento. These principles focus on protecting Proposition 42 transportation funding, assuring payback of Prop 42 loans, rewarding self help counties, using

the existing project selection process for the bulk of any new bond funding, and other matters. The principles can be found on the CMA's website.

## CMA Approves Local Road Rehabilitation Funding

In February, the CMA adopted a \$9.1 million program of rehabilitation projects for local streets and roads. A combination of federal and CMA funds will be used to fund these projects. The final list of projects is available on the CMA's website.

## Construction to Begin on AC Transit Uptown Center

The CMA has awarded a \$1.6 million construction contract for the AC Transit Uptown Center in Oakland. This project is part of the larger Int'l/Telegraph Rapid Bus project scheduled to open this summer. The low bid was under the engineer's estimate. Construction will begin following the receipt of the necessary permits from the City of Oakland.

#### Criteria for Lifeline Transportation Program Adopted

The CMA Board and ACTIA have adopted criteria for selecting projects for the Lifeline Transportation Program. The CMA and ACTIA will jointly administer this program. Alameda County's program budget includes approximately \$1.1 million in Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds, \$2 million in State Transit Assistance funds, and an estimated \$1.8 million in Job Access Reverse Commute funds, for a total of \$4.9 million. The call for projects will be issued in March with submittals due in April. A final program is anticipated in June.

#### Draft 2006-7 Budget Available for Review and Comment

At its February meeting, the CMA adopted a draft 2006-7 budget. This budget is available on the CMA's website. A final budget will be adopted at the March meeting.

#### Report on CMA Sponsored Capital Projects Available

The CMA is the sponsor of several projects – improvements in the I-580 and I-680 corridors, improvements in the Dumbarton Bridge approach corridor, improvements on I-880 in Oakland, and various traffic flow and rapid bus improvements in northern Alameda County. These projects are in different stages of development – environmental documentation, engineering, and construction. The report on these projects is available at the CMA offices or on the CMA's website.

#### Federal and State Funds "At Risk" Reports Available

The Quarterly At Risk reports for projects programmed with federal and State funds are available at the CMA offices or on the CMA's web site. These reports indicate which projects need attention in order to meet deadlines.

#### **Deadlines to Note**

Final Program

<u>Lifeline Transportation Program (approx. \$5 million)</u>

Call for Projects March 2006
Deadline for Project Submittals April 2006
Draft Program May 2006

Combined Measure B Bicycle-Pedestrian Program, Regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Program and TFCA Eligible Projects

Call for Projects Spring 2006
Deadline for Project Submittals Summer 2006

**Upcoming Meetings** 

March 7 CMA Technical Advisory Committee

10 I-680 Smart Carpool Lane JPA

13 CMA Administration & Legislation Committee

13 CMA Plans & Programs Committee

15/16 CTC (Sacramento) – Northern STIP Hearing

23 CMA Board Meeting

4 CMA Technical Advisory Committee

10 CMA Administration & Legislation Committee

10 CMA Plans & Programs Committee

26/27 CTC (Fresno)

27 CMA Board Meeting

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